D-l House of the Hinges East New Market private

The "House of the Hinges" is the among the best known of the prominent brick houses in Dorchester County. The two-and-a-half story, Flemish bond brick dwelling was built in the best tradition of late eighteenth-century craftsmanship with highly decorative woodwork. The elevated four-bay facade towers over the other dwellings in East New Market in height as well as impressive architectural finish. Elaborate cornices with delicately tapered modillion blocks highlight the roof as well as the pair of dormers. Although the interior was significantly reworked during the 1840s, the house retains much of its original woodwork which is now being restored. The hewn log smokehouse behind the kitchen is the structure that inspired the name of the property. The smokehouse door exhibits unusually long strap hinges.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No. 1000012204

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Survey No. D-1

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

7. Description

Popularly known as the "House of the Hinges," but also called the Manning house or the Temperance Hotel, this two-and-a-half story, four-room plan brick house stands in the center of East New Market, Dorchester County, Maryland. The Flemish and common bond brick house faces east with the gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1795-1800, this two-and-a-half, four-bay brick house is supported by a raised three-course common bond brick foundation that boasts a molded watertable. The front and side walls are laid in Flemish bond, while the west (rear) wall is a laid in common bond. The steeply pitched gable roof has been recently resheathed with slate. Attached to the south end of the main block is a story-and-a-half three-course common bond brick kitchen that incorporates fragments of an earlier structure of undetermined date. Standing behind the kitchen is a pyramidal roofed log smokehouse.

The east (main) facade is an asymmetrical four-bay elevation that has been recently restored with a new double-door entrance and flanking twelve-over-eight sash windows. The raised-panel double doors, located in the second bay from the south, have been interpreted with flanking pilasters and an elaborate modillion block cornice. The cornice profile was taken from the original block cornice surviving on the dormers. Each of the window openings are topped by carefully executed jack arches. The second floor is marked by four window eight-overeight window openings. The second bay from the south had originally been a window opening, but was changed to a door opening and then back to a window opening. Stretching across the base of the roof is an intricate cornice with an elaborate series of moldings. The modillion blocks have a delicate tapered profile, and a row of candlestick punch and gougework enhance the bed molding. Distinguishing the steeply pitched roof are a pair of gabled dormers that boast modillion cornices and original arched sash windows. The sides to the dormers are covered with diagonal board sheathing. Piercing the foundation are segmental arches cellar window openings with restored horizontal bar grills.

The north side of the house is an asymmetrical elevation as well with a single twelve-over-eight sash window marking the west bay, and a pair of eight-over-eight sash windows lighting the second floor. Six-over-six sash windows light the attic to either side of the tall, interior end brick stacks that are finished with corbelled caps. The gable end is flush and trimmed with a molded bargeboard.

The west (rear) elevation is a three-bay facade with a raised ten-panel door flanked by restored twelve-over-eight sash windows. Three eight-over-eight sash windows light the second floor, and a pair of new dormers are centered on the roof. The cornice is less elaborately finished with more standard bed and crown moldings than the front cornice.

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The "House of the Hinges," also known as the Manning house, is one of the known historic dwellings in Dorchester County. The two-and-a-half story Flemish bond brick dwelling was built on an ambitious scale with a generous four-room plan. The interior Georgian and Federal influenced woodwork equals any similar work known to exist in the area. Attached to south gable end is a story-and-a-half kitchen that boasts an engaged tapered post porch with a brick paved floor and a vaulted ceiling. Standing behind the kitchen is the structure that inspired the name of the property. The hewn log smokehouse displays unusually long strap hinges. The beaded edges of the logs, the beaded edges of the surface trim, and rare construction features make this turn of the neteenth-century smokehouse a highly unusual survival on the Eastern Shore.

The property was held by the Manning family for much of the nineteenthcentury. In addition to the credit for erecting the house, members of the Manning family also operated a hotel in this building through part of the late nineteenth century. Currently, the house is undergoing an extensive restoration that is focused on returning the house to its early appearance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

DESCRIPTION (continued)

The south side of the main block is partially covered by a story-and-a-half three-course common bond brick kitchen that incorporates the remnants of an earlier brick structure of undetermined date. The balance of the south wall of the main house includes an original eight-over-eight sash window that lights the first stair landing and restored eight-over-eight sash windows that illuminate the south rooms. The attic wall is pierced by a pair of six-over-six sash windows to either side of the large interior end brick chimney. The gable end is finished with a molded bargeboard. An exterior cellar entry is located in the east bay and is sheltered by a gable roofe frame entry.

The east (main) three-bay elevation of the kitchen is a symmetrical facade with a center four-panel door entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows with jack arches. The entire south wall is sheltered by an engaged porch that is supported by square tapered piers set on marble blocks. The center opening of the porch is distinguished by a segmental arch. The porch ceiling is vaulted, and the floor is brick paved. Centered on the roof are a pair of six-over-six sash dormers with simple pilasters trimming the corners, and diagonal board side walls.

The south end of the kitchen is dominated by a partial exterior brick chimney with corbelled shoulders. The chimney is laid in five-course common bond. Evident in the brickwork is a slight raising of the roof to include the engaged porch in front. A four-over-four sash window pierces the upper gable east of the brick stack, and the end wall of the porch is covered with flush beaded boards.

The west side of the kitchen is a three-bay facade with a center four-panel door and flanking six-over-six sash windows.

The interior finishes of the main block (undergoing an extensive restoration that is focused on on returning the house to its turn of the nineteenth-century finish. Much of the house had been extensively reworked around 1840 in Greek Revival taste. Despite ambitious interests to redesign the interior at the time, much of the original woodwork was left in place or reused in other situations throughout the house.

The first floor is divided into four unequal sized rooms. The squarish entrance hall, comprising the southeast quarter of the first floor, is dominated by the decorated quarter-turn stair that rises in the southeast corner of the entrance hall. The slender turned newel post and the series of turned balusters support a molded handrail. The stringer below is decorated with a delicate scroll design with the end of the S-shaped curve embellished with a gougework star. Below the stringer the large triangular space is divided by a series of flat panels. The stair soffit is finished with the same flat panels. The soffits of the second floor run of steps were fitted with reproduction flat paneling as well. The entrance hall walls were originally fitted with flat-panel wainscoting as well, a section of which survives against the south wall rising with the stair. The wainscoting is embellished with a punch and gougework row imitating classical swags. The entrance hall has been refitted with restored six-panel doors framed by crossetted surrounds with ovolo molded backbands.

The northeast room has been extensively reworked with the restoration of the hearth wall. The chimney breast had been stripped of its mantel and eighteenth-century overmantel. Original cupboards to either side of the hearth had been altered as well. The Federal mantel, the profile of which follows the paint ghost of the original, has been applied along with a crossetted overmantel. The cupboards to either side have been rebuilt as well with the beaded board shelves inserted where the earlier ones had been. The ceiling is trimmed with an original cornice that stretches across the distance of the north wall. An unusual feature of the front parlor uncovered during the restoration process is the partially whitewashed finish of the interior parlor walls. The whitewash only rises to the height of a chair rail. Painted overmantels executed during the early nineteenth century were removed and installed in the Maryland Historical Society.

The northwest room, the largest first floor space is highlighted by an elaborate wooden cornice that stretches around the perimeter of the room. A candlestick row of gougework enriches a complex molded cornice. The hearth wall is currently being restored since the eighteenth-century mantel and overmantel were removed. The flat-panel wainscoting some of which survives is also being restored on the east wall where a Greek Revival sized double-door opening has been introduced.

The southwest room is the smallest first floor space. A southeast corner fireplace is fitted with a Greek Revival style mantel with simple pilasters and a plain frieze under a thick shelf. The room is fitted with raised-panel wainscoting, and as in the rest of the house the doors and windows have been restored.

The stair that continues to the attic is less elaborately finished with plain rectangular balusters and a simpler molded handrail. The upstairs passage is also fitted with flat-panel wainscoting and crossetted door surrounds. The door reveals are finished with raised panels, and many of the original raised six-panel doors survive as well. The finish of the bedrooms is relatively plain in contrast to the rest of the house. The southwest room includes a corner hearth. The ovolo molded firebox surround had been removed and used elsewhere, but is now being returned to its original location. Beaded baseboard stretches around the perimeter of the room. The northern two rooms are in the process of being repartitioned with the addition of closet space and/or bathrooms.

The attic was finished evidently around 1840 with the space partitioned into five rooms. Sawn lath and plaster walls with beaded baseboards were the principal finish. Located in the southwest room is the enclosed attic stair which carries an early square newel post and square balusters that support a molded handrail. A beaded board partition encloses the ladder stair. The upper attic is unfinished.

The kitchen interior has been heavily reworked through the years and has now been extensively gutted. Surviving on the south end wall is a flush paneling framed by beaded edge stiles and rails. The hearth is framed by a molded surround topped by a molded shelf, while the enclosed stair is fixed in the southwest corner. To the east of the chimney pile the niche was filled with built-in cupboards. The doors as well as some of the rails and stiles have been removed. The upper floor of the kitchen is partitioned into two rooms. Interestingly a section flat-panel wainscoting was nailed to the south end wall and topped by a hand-carved mantel

Page 3

shelf. In addition a crossettd door surround removed from the main house was used around the door opening of the partition.

Standing directly behind the kitchen is a pyramidal roofed hewn log smokehouse. Supported by the remnants of a continuous brick foundation, the smokehouse is covered by a pyramidal asphalt shingle roof. The exposed logs were finished with a beaded edges, and the corner notching was covered with beaded edge boards. Piercing the east side is a large board door with long spade-tipped strap hinges. Along the inside edge of each strap hinge a tangent section of iron curls out to add further support for the door. The door is framed by a molded surround. The cornice above the door is boxed. The side walls consist of stacked hewn logs with beaded edges, while the west (rear) wall is pierced by a small window opening framed by a molded surround. Two sets of iron bars criss-cross the window opening which is covered by a board shutter hung on long strap hinges. The interior has a loose board floor.

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It is four bays wide, three bays deep, and has large chimneys with ornate caps, on the gable-ends. Two dorners of ornate design with fluted pilasters are on each side of the roof. The comice consists of triglyphs with drips and a "wall of Troy" molding. This is the same type cornice as "Glasgow" in Cambridge, Dorchester County, Maryland.

The main house is laid in Flemish bond, painted white. It has brick lintels over the windows which have six over six sash. The door has a fine transom with tracery.

To the west of the house is a one-end-half story kitchenwing with an overhanging porch. There are two derivers in the roof of the wing.

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6. LOCATION MAP (Plon Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

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Michael O. Bourne

Maryland Historical Trust

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Behind the house is a smokehouse with large unusual hinges which gives the house its name.

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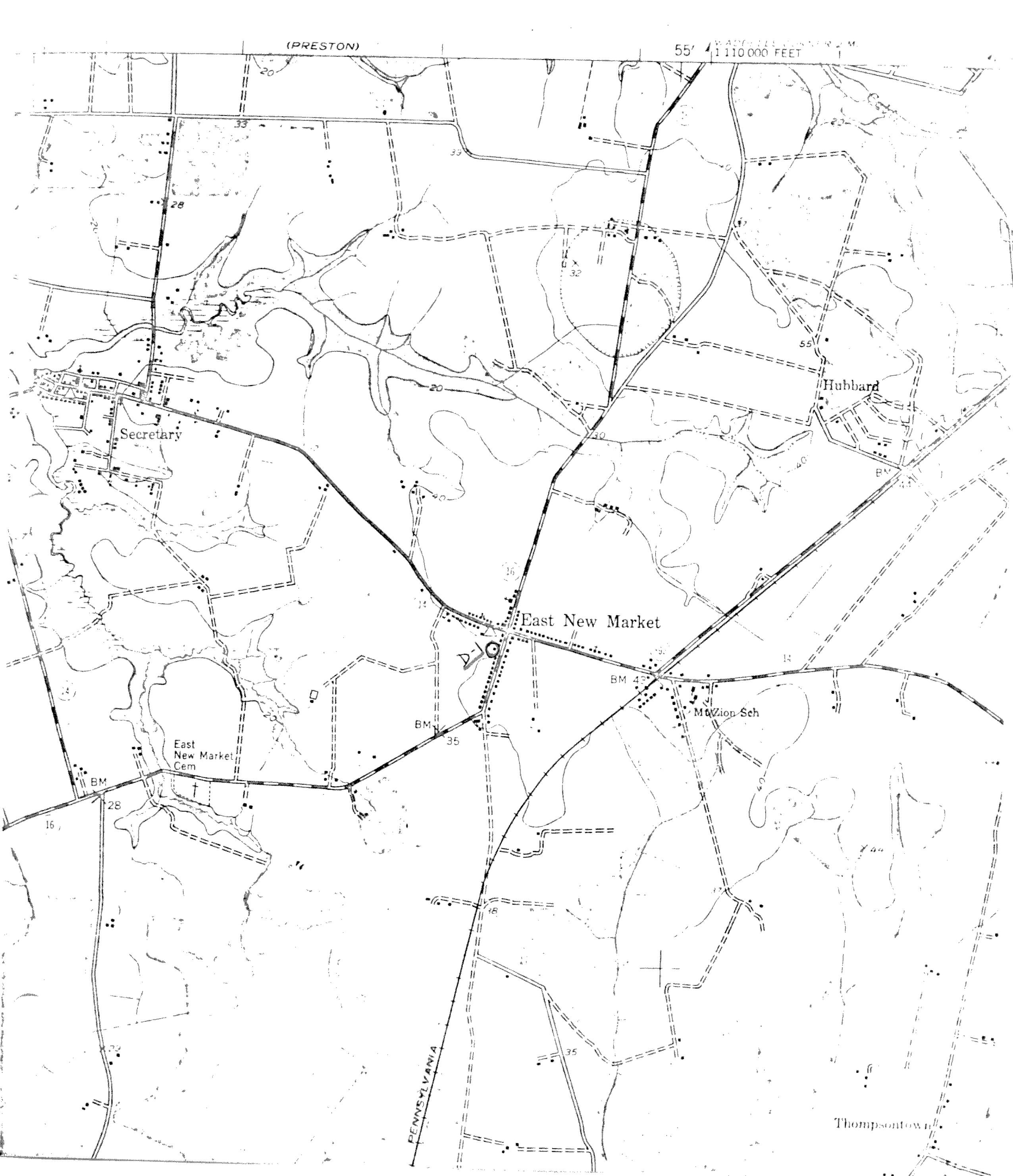
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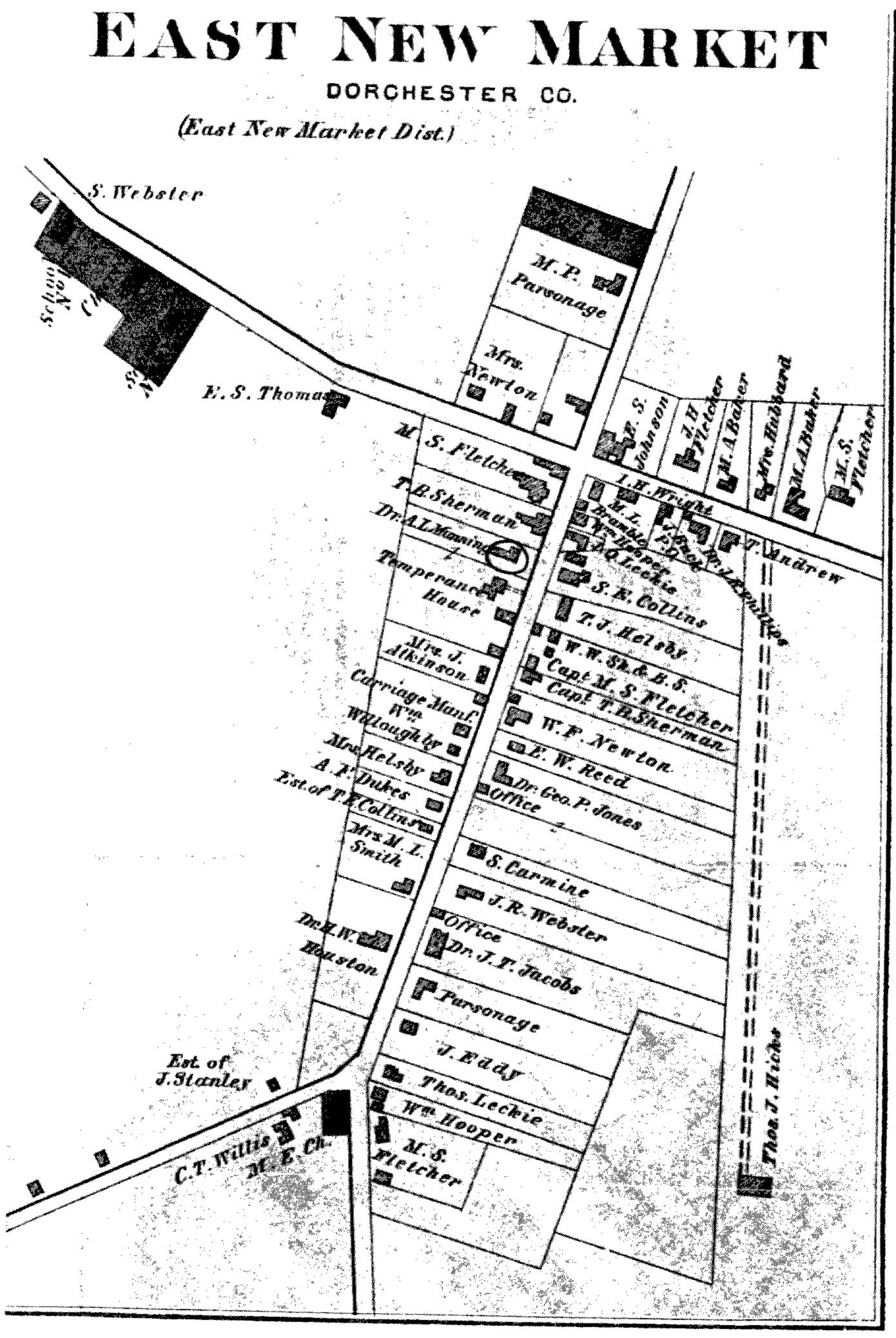
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9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

Michael O. Bourne Restricted Nietoricel Trust

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EAST NEW MARKET BUSINESS REFERENCES.

- J. W. ANDREWS, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Queensware, Cutlery, Tinware, Ready Made Clothing, Harness, Notions, and all other articles usually kept in a country store. Residence and Store, Cabin Creek, Md.
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- B. F. SHERMAN, Proprietor of "Lower Cabin Creek Mills." Merchant and Custom work done. Highest cash prices for Wheat and Corn. Also constable of East New Market District. P. O. East New Market.
- JAMES H. KELLY, Proprietor of "Little Brick Mill." Custom work done at all times and in a satis-
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- W. S. POTTER & SON., Proprietors of "Holly Grove Canning Factory." All kinds of Fruits canned, and kept on hand, and for sale at all times; Warranted as marked. Peaches a specialty. Residence and Canning Factory near East New Market, Dorchester County, Md.
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D-1HOUSE OF THE HINGES

East elevation

12/87 Paul Touart photographer Negative/MD Historical Trust

East New Market, MD Dorchester Co.



D-1

HOUSE OF THE HINGES

East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD East elevation

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HOUSE OF THE HINGES East New Market, Dochester Co., MD South elevation

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D-1 House of the Hinges East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD Northeast corner 12/87 Paul Touart photographer Negative/MD Historical Trust



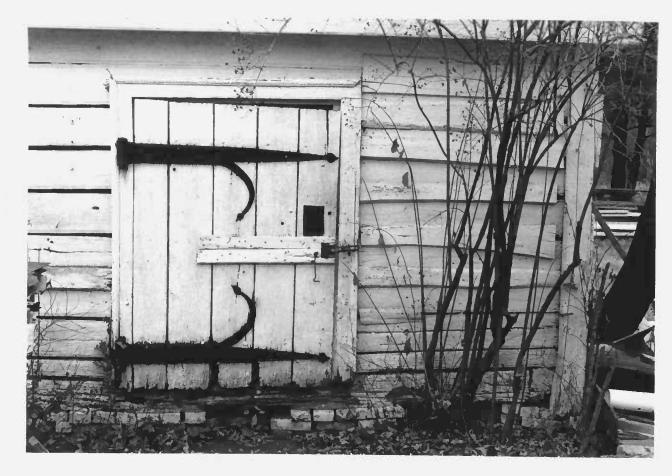
D-1HOUSE OF THE HINGES

East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD

Northeast elevation of meathouse

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Negative/MD Historical Trust



D - 1

HOUSE OF THE HINGES

East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD

Meathouse door-east elevation

12/87 Paul Touart photographer Negative/MD historical Trust



HOUSE OF THE HINGES
East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD
Meathouse window-west elevation
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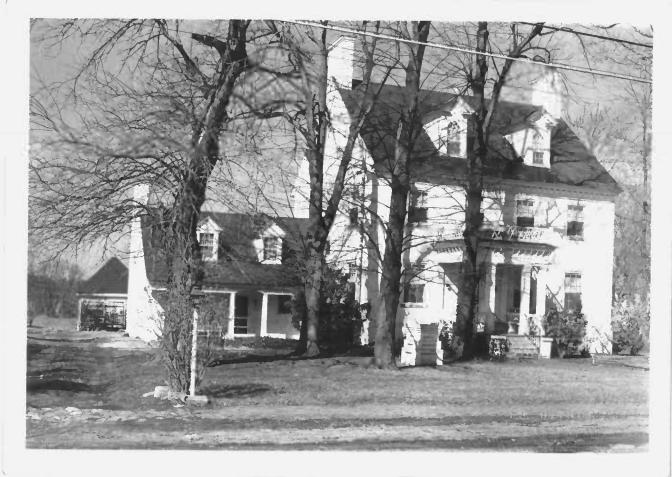
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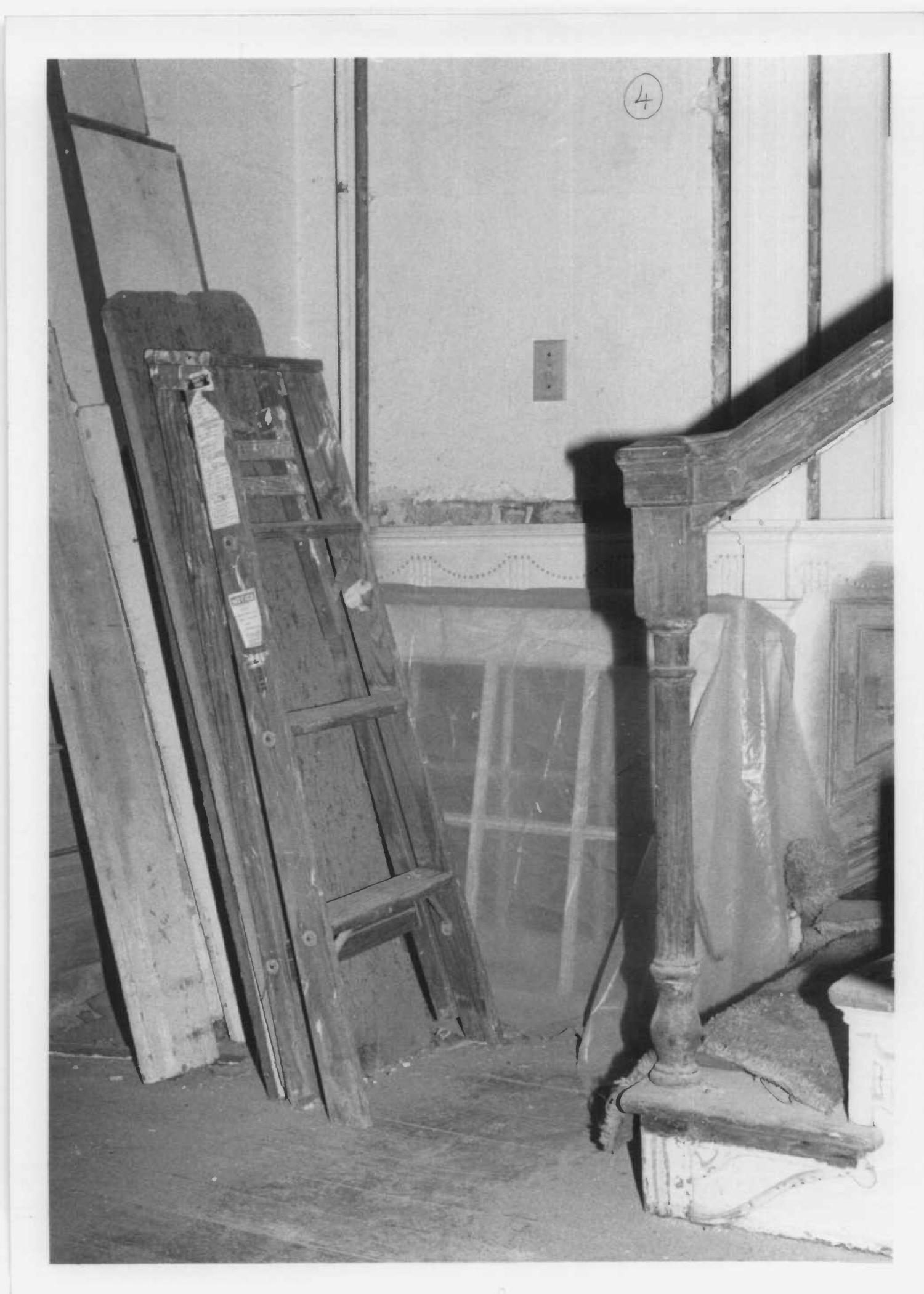
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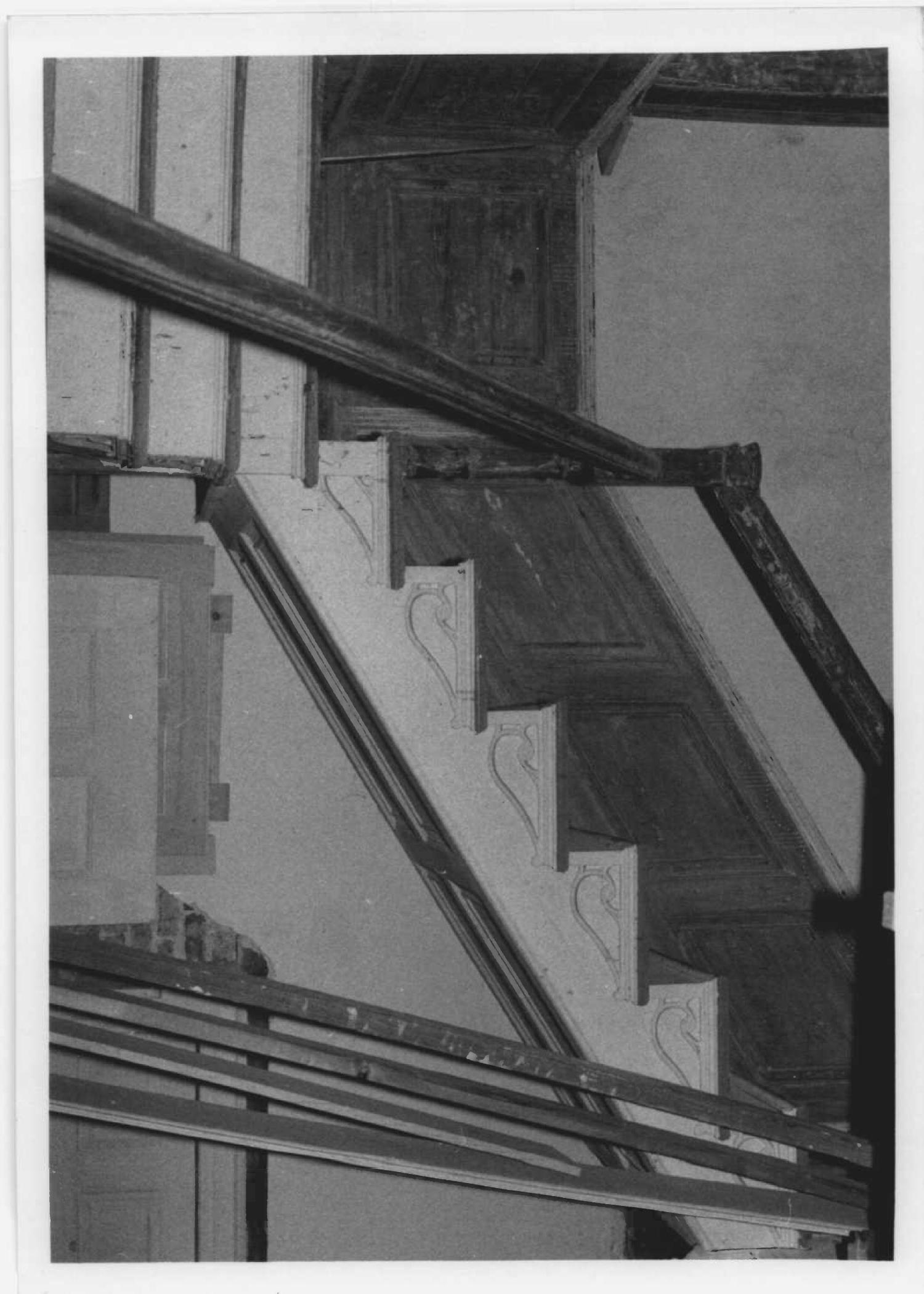
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D-1
HOUSE OF THE HINGES
East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD
Wainscoting along staircase
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HOUSE OF THE HINGES
East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD
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East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD
Stair
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D-1
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East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD
Wainscoting at stair
12/87 Paul Touart photographer
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D-1
HOUSE OF THE HINGES
East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD
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